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SECURITY INFORMATION

X1A 541

COUNTRY ~~10~~ (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Laerz Airfield

25X1X

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

31 October 1951

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

REFERENCE COPY

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SOURCE

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1. Between 4 and 7 p.m. on 3 October 1951, Laerz airfield was observed from all sides. The weather was cloudless and visibility 8 to 10 km. Swept-back jet fighters observed at the field included 7 with auxiliary fuel tanks parked in the middle of the E-W runway, 7 without auxiliary fuel tanks, parked west of the other group, 15 without auxiliary fuel tanks, parked in the southeastern section of the field, and about 20 others with and without auxiliary fuel tanks, parked in the southwestern section of the field. At 4 p.m., the jet fighters on the runway were refueled by tank trucks. Shortly after 4 p.m., a blue signal was fired whereupon three jet fighters took off simultaneously and headed east. About 5 minutes later, four additional jet fighters took off individually. At 5 p.m., the other group of seven jet fighters which were parked on the runway took off and headed east. The planes did not return until 7 p.m. Three trucks each with a mounted searchlight about 1 meter in diameter were parked at the west end of the E-W runway. Two railroad tank cars were observed on the spur track. Fuel from one tank car was being transferred into a tank truck.

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2. Between 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on 5 October, the field was observed from its eastern side. The weather was cloudless and visibility was 6 to 8 km. At 12:15 p.m., two swept-back jet fighters with no auxiliary fuel tanks and with [redacted] took off and made a low-level attack firing short bursts of fire at a ground target about 3 km north of the field. Subsequently, the planes landed at the field. At 12:45 p.m. three swept-back jet fighters without auxiliary fuel tanks and with the [redacted] on their noses took off individually and headed east. The aircraft did not land until 1:30 p.m.

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3. On 7 October, 28 MiG-15s and 2 single-engine planes were counted at the field. An estimated 15 additional MiG-15s were stationed there. Motor vehicles [redacted]

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4. Between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on 10 October, 20 jet fighters covered with tarpaulins, 8 jet fighters ready for take-off, 2 U-2 biplanes, and 4 single-engine fighter trainers were observed at the field. [redacted]

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No Change in Class. ☐☐ Declassified

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